(d) A proposal to expand the network is under preparation with optimal station density distribution for detecting low magnitude earthquakes within the country.

Shanti Sena activities in Jharkhand

2069. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the Shanti Sena activities in Jharkhand;

(b) whether it is a fact that almost all Shanti Sena activists are non-tribals;

(c) it is alleged that a large number of Shanti Sena activists are given licensed weapons and under the garb of containing Naxal activities, they murder the local tribals; and

(d) the steps being proposed to protect tribals from being harassed and exploited by non-tribals in the name of protecting civilians under such outfits like Shanti Sena?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) This information is not Centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) 'Police' and 'public order' being State subjects, action with respect to maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments, who deal with the various issues related to naxalite activities in the States. The Central Government also closely monitors the situation and supplements their efforts and resources through various measures.

Cases related to criminal activities are registered, investigated and prosecuted by the concerned State Government.

Government of India is committed to, and has been taking a variety of measures for, protection and all-round development of tribals and tribal areas.

Discrimination in the disbursement of aid to victims of Malegaon

2070. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that victims of Malegaon blast in Maharashtra have alleged discrimination in the disbursement of aid to them *vis-a-vis* the aid given to the victims of the recent train blast in Mumbai;

(b) whether Government has looked into the complaints of discrimination; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Compensation/*ex-gratia* is paid by various States Governments in accordance with their policies. As per available information, the State Government of Maharashtra had announced *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. One lakh to the next of-kin of those killed and Rs. 50,000/- to those with major injuries in both the incidents *i.e.* Mumbai local trains bomb blasts case as well as in Malegaon bomb blast case. In addition compensation has also been paid by the Railways to the victims of the train blasts in accordance with their Rules/Policy.

Upgrading land customs stations into integrated check posts along India's Border

2071. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has decided to fund the entire Rs. 853 crore project involving upgrading

of 13 land customs stations into integrated check post along India's border with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal;

(b) if so, whether decision was taken at the inter ministerial meeting with the Minister of External Affairs attended by Home Minister and Minister of State for Commerce;

(c) whether the project had been approved by the Committee on Security in November, 2007 but Government had to decide on the route of funding; and

(d) if so, by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The Cabinet Committee on Security has accorded its approval for setting up of 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) along India's border with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Nepal as a plan scheme under XI Five Year Plan.

(b) and c) While granting approval for the scheme, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) directed that the best elements of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model be integrated suitably in the proposal. However, after scrutiny of the proposal at various levels it was noted that to begin with the phase-I of the project may be implemented entirely with Government funding in view of the sovereign functions and government involved in the functioning of proposed ICPs. Accordingly, in the meeting chaired by the External Affairs Minister on 24.12.2007 and attended by the HM and Minister of State for Commerce, it was decided that the four ICPs under Priority 1 *i.e.*, (i) Attari/Wagah, (ii) Raxaul, (iii) Moreh and (iv) Petrapole should be implemented totally with the Government funds as against Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) Model. Suitable follow up action accordingly is being taken for obtaining the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(d) The construction of ICPs will be taken up as a plan scheme in the XI Five Year Plan. A provision of Rs. 35 crore has been made in the budget of the next financial year *i.e.*, 2008-09 for the purpose. The total assessment of the financial requirement firming up of project cost and completion of procedural formalities are underway and accordingly action will be made to obtain budgetary provision in the XI plan. M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) has been engaged for the initial consultation and for the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Detailed Engineering Report (DER). The procedural formalities are being taken to start the project.

Solution of traffic mess in the capital

2072. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private corporate houses dealing in the manufacture of cars have been directed to study the traffic mess in the capital and suggest solution to ease traffic congestion;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 40 per cent of the vehicles plying in Delhi are from neighbouring States causing congestion on roads; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to park heavy duty vehicles coming from neighbouring States on borders to control congestion?